

*A FORM FOR
ADMITTING CONVERTS*

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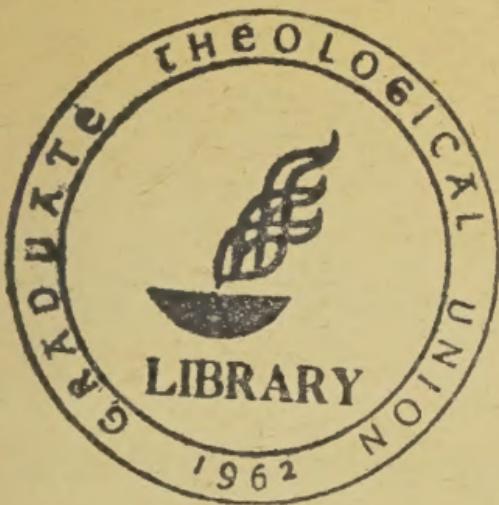
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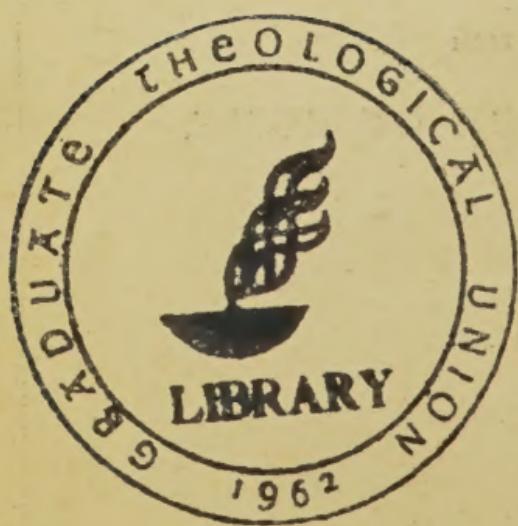
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A FORM
FOR
ADMITTING CONVERTS
FROM
THE CHURCH OF ROME.



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A FORM
FOR
ADMITTING CONVERTS
FROM
THE CHURCH OF ROME,
AND
SUCH OTHERS AS SHALL RENOUNCE THEIR ERRORS;
AND FOR
RESTORING THOSE WHO HAVE RELAPSED.

Prepared by the Upper House of Convocation,
A.D. 1714,

And Amended by the same,
A.D. 1890.

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CONVOCATION OF THE PROVINCE
OF CANTERBURY
UPPER HOUSE.

—♦—
A FORM,

ETC.
—♦—

¶ *The Bishop, or some Priest appointed by him for that purpose, being at the Lord's Table, and the person to be received standing without the rails, the Bishop, or such Priest as is appointed, shall speak to the Congregation as followeth:*

DEARLY beloved, we are here met together for the receiving of this person, lately of the Church of Rome (or lately of the Separation), into the Church of England, as into a true and sound part of Christ's Holy Catholic Church. Now, that this weighty affair may have its due effect, let us, in the first place, humbly and devoutly pray to Almighty God for his blessing upon us in that pious and charitable office we are going about.

Then shall he say, all kneeling :

PREVENT us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help ; that in this, and all other our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, who shovest to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness ; grant unto all them that are or shall be admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same ; through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Psalm cxix. v. 169.

LET my complaint come before thee, O Lord : give me understanding, according to thy word.

Let my supplication come before thee : deliver me, according to thy word.

My lips shall speak of thy praise : when thou hast taught me thy statutes.

Yea, my tongue shall sing of thy word : for all thy commandments are righteous.

Let thine hand help me : for I have chosen thy commandments.

I have longed for thy saving health, O Lord : and in thy law is my delight.

O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee : and thy judgments shall help me.

I have gone astray like a sheep that is lost : O seek thy servant, for I do not forget thy commandments.

Glory be to the Father, &c.

As it was in the beginning, &c.

¶ *The Lesson.* Ephesians iv. v. 1 to v. 14.

I THEREFORE, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called. With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love. Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling. One Lord, one faith, one baptism. One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But unto every one of us is

given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

¶ *Then the Bishop sitting in his chair, or the Priest standing, shall speak to the person to be received as follows :*

DEARLY beloved, it is fitting that before we admit you to the communion of the Church of England we should receive full assurance that you understand what is required of

you, and for this purpose and that this your declaration may the more confirm you in your good resolutions, you shall answer plainly to these questions which we, in the name of God and of his Church, shall propose to you touching the same.

ART thou persuaded that the Holy Scriptures, which are received as Canonical Scriptures by this Church, contain sufficiently all doctrine required of necessity for eternal salvation, through faith in Jesus Christ ?

Answer. I am so persuaded.

Question. Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth ?

And in Jesus Christ his only-begotten Son our Lord, and that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; that he suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; that he went down into hell, and also did rise again the third day; that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and from thence shall come again, at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead ?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints;

the remission of sins; the resurrection of the flesh, and everlasting life after death ?

Answer. All this I stedfastly believe.

Question. Wilt thou gladly follow the way prescribed in the Scriptures for the directing of the faith and practice of a true disciple of Christ Jesus ?

Answer. I will endeavour myself so to do, God being my helper.

Question. Dost thou desire to be received into the communion of the Church of England as a true and sound part of Christ's Holy Catholic Church ?

Answer. This I earnestly desire.

¶ *If the person come from the Church of Rome this question is to follow.*

DO ST thou renounce all the errors and superstitions of the present Church of Rome, so far as they are come to thy knowledge ?

Answer. I do from my heart renounce them all.

¶ *If the Person coming from the Church of Rome be in Holy Orders, let these further questions be asked.*

DO ST thou in particular renounce the last twelve articles added in the Confession commonly called "the Creed of Pope Pius IV," so far as they are at variance with the Articles and Formularies of the Church of England ?

Answer. I do renounce them, as grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but rather repugnant to the Word of God.

Question. Dost thou acknowledge the supremacy of the Queen's Majesty by law established and declared in the 37th Article of Religion as agreeable to the Word of God ?

Answer. I do sincerely acknowledge it.

Question. Wilt thou then give thy faithful diligence always so to minister the doctrine and sacraments, and the discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded, and as this Church and Realm hath received the same, according to the commandments of God, so that thou mayest teach the people with all diligence to keep and observe the same ?

Answer. I will do so, by the help of the Lord.

Question. Wilt thou conform thyself to the Liturgy of the Church of England, as by law established ?

Answer. I will.

¶ *If the Person come from the Separation, these questions are to be asked.*

DO ST thou acknowledge the Orders of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons to be of Apostolic authority in the Church; and wilt

thou, as much as in thee lieth, promote all due regard to the same good order and government of the Church of Christ?

Answer. I do acknowledge this, and will endeavour that it may be so regarded, as much as in me lieth.

Question. Wilt thou conform thyself to the Liturgy of the Church of England, and be diligent in attending the prayers and other offices of the Church?

Answer. I will do so by the help of God.

¶ *Then the Bishop or Priest, standing up, shall say:*

ALMIGHTY God, who hath given you a sense of your errors, and a will to do all these things; Grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same, that he may accomplish his work which he hath begun in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *The Absolution.*

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them, that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,

and bring you to everlasting life ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then the Bishop or Priest, taking the Person by the right hand, shall say to him;*

WE do, upon this thy solemn profession and earnest request, receive thee into the holy communion of the Church of England, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

People. Amen.

¶ *Then the Bishop or Priest shall say the Lord's Prayer, with that which follows, all kneeling.*

Let us pray.

OUR Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; But deliver us from evil : For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. *Amen.*

OGOD of truth and love, we bless and magnify thy holy Name for thy great mercy and goodness in bringing this thy servant into

the communion of this Church; give *him*, we beseech thee, stability and perseverance in that faith of which *he* hath in the presence of God and of this congregation made a good confession. Suffer *him* not to be moved from it by any temptations, enticements, or persecutions. And in thy good time, O Lord, bring, we pray thee, into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived; and so fetch them home, blessed Lord, to thy flock, that there may be one fold under one Shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

GOD the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favour look upon you; and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace. *Amen.*

¶ *It is convenient that the Person, if he be already confirmed, should receive the Holy Communion, but if there be no Communion at that time, the Bishop or Priest shall say:*

DEAR brother (or sister), seeing that you have by the goodness of God proceeded thus far, take heed that you go on in that good way into which you are entered; and for your establish-

ment and furtherance therein, that [you seek for confirmation on the next opportunity, and that] you duly receive the holy sacrament of the Lord's Supper; and may God's holy Spirit ever be with you. *Amen.*

Oxford

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